

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When FOUPs (front opening unified pods) (80a, 80b) are mounted on shelves (111d, 121c), respectively, shelves (121a, 121b, 121c) are moved in the vertical direction by cylinders (127a, 127b, 127c), respectively. The FOUP (80b) is thereby moved above
5 the FOUP (80a) to create a space (129), for ensuring a transport path (AR6) for the FOUP (80a). The FOUP 80a can therefore be transported to a shelf (141) without moving the FOUP (80b) to another shelf, achieving improved throughput of substrate processing.